

50597 to 50607—Continued.

50606. *SIDA RHOMBIFOLIA* L. Malvaceæ.

"Escoba, from Chobo, Las Guayas, Ecuador."

A half-shrubby weed growing by the roadsides and in open places, having yellow flowers which open at about half-past 10 o'clock in the morning and soon fade to a whitish color. It yields a good fiber, which in Australia is known as Queensland hemp. This is fine, strong, white, and lustrous and is easily extracted. It is softer and finer than jute, but shorter. Experiments made with this fiber show that a cord 12.5 millimeters in circumference will sustain a weight of 400 pounds. In Guam fresh plants are gathered each morning and made into bundles which serve as brooms. (Adapted from *Safford, Useful Plants of Guam*, p. 375.)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 46990.

50607. *SOLANUM QUITOENSE* Lam. Solanaceæ.

Naranjilla.

"Naranjilla. From fruits bought in the market at Guayaquil, Ecuador."

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 47951.

50608. *SYZYGium CUMINI* (L.) Skeels. Myrtaceæ.

Jambolan.

(Eugenia jambolana Lam.)

From Manila, Philippine Islands. Seeds presented by Elmer D. Merrill, director, Bureau of Science. Received June 19, 1920.

A tall handsome tree native to southern Asia, ascending to an altitude of 5,000 feet in Kumaon and Polynesia and probably hardy in extratropical latitudes. The edible fruit is about the size of a cherry and is purplish black when ripe; it may perhaps be improved by culture; fruits 1½ inches long have been produced under cultivation. The seeds are used as a remedy for diabetes. (Adapted from *Mueller, Select Extra-Tropical Plants*, p. 213.)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 43217.

50609 to 50623.

From Coban, Alta Vera Paz, Guatemala. Seeds presented by Harry Johnson. Received June 7, 1920. Quoted notes by Mr. Johnson.

50609. *BEGONIA* sp. Begoniaceæ.

Begonia.

"(No. 182.) A rather abundant rhizomatous plant from Chama, with smooth leaves 6 to 12 inches in diameter. The cymes of white flowers on long stems are very ornamental."

50610. *BEGONIA* sp. Begoniaceæ.

Begonia.

"(No. 173.) An upright plant from Chama, with white flowers and reddish leaves."

50611. *BEGONIA* sp. Begoniaceæ.

Begonia.

"(No. 180.) An upright plant from Coban, with pink flowers. Seems to prefer clay soils."

50612. *BEGONIA* sp. Begoniaceæ.

Begonia.

"(No. 181.) An upright plant from Chama, with smooth leaves and pink flowers. Very ornamental when in full flower."

50613. *BEGONIA* sp. Begoniaceæ.

Begonia.

"(No. 172.) Similar to *Begonia ricinifolia*. A plant from Chama, with pink flowers and leaves marked with deep green on a lighter field. Plant smaller here."

50614. *CHAMAEDOREA* sp. Phœnicaceæ.

Pacaya.

"(No. 183.) Pacaya palm."

For previous introductions, see S. P. I. No. 44059.